

Date: **20 June 2019**

Our reference: **FOIRQ5247**

Dear Sir/Madam,

Thank you for your request for information processed under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. Please see our response to your request below:

Your Request

I would like a copy of your infection control policy and your patient safety / safe guarding policy please.

Our Request for Clarification

Please can you define more specifically what you mean by an 'infection control policy' and what information it should contain?

Your Response to Our Request for Clarification

My request is to find out what you understand by it and not what I think it should be. Please can you liaise with staff who understand or wrote the policy to respond in a more appropriate fashion.

Our Further Request for Clarification

We carried out a preliminary search of the information requested where information was identified relating to infection control; but not specifically titled 'Infection Control Policy'. Do you mean i.e. the Infection Control Assurance Framework?

In respect of the information requested on patient safety, again, we do not hold a specific document titled 'Patient Safety Policy' as the information may be held under a different title or heading. Can you specify whether there are any particular aspects of patient safety that you are interested in?

Your Response to Our Further Request for Clarification

I would like any information you have of what measures you have in place to protect the children that go into Gosh from infections, accidents etc. There must be policies in place to safe guard the children that are treated in gosh. For example, what measures are in place to protect immune compromised children from picking up deadly infections whilst in hospital.

Our Response

Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children NHS Foundation Trust (the 'Trust') is a single site, specialist tertiary paediatric trust. We have obtained advice and assistance from the specialist teams on safeguarding children from infections and what measures we have in place to protect patients from cross-infections.

The Trust has a 'Standard and Isolation Precautions Policy' with aims and objectives outlined on 'when and how' to apply the following precautions:

- Standard Precautions: precautions applied at all times and aimed at protecting HCWs from the risk of exposure to infection through blood and body fluids.
- Isolation Precautions: additional precautions applied after risk assessment aimed at the prevention of transmission of microorganisms from suspected or known sources to patients and/or staff and visitors.

Please see attached copy of our 'Standard and Isolation Precautions Policy'.

The Trust also holds information on 'Infections and Prevention Control' and is available on the GOSH website, which includes a link to a pdf document titled 'Protecting children from infection' accessible via the following GOSH website link:

<https://www.gosh.nhs.uk/parents-and-visitors/coming-hospital/infection-prevention-and-control>

Section 21 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 is an absolute exemption and no public interest test is applied to determine whether the information held by a public authority (the "Trust") should be disclosed when it is reasonably accessible to the applicant by other means.

Sections 21 (1) states '*Information which is reasonably accessible to the applicant otherwise than under section 1 is exempt information*'. *Your request is exempt as the information accessible to you via other means.*

Please note:

The information provided under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 is the information held on the date your request was received by the Trust.

We trust the information provided is sufficient and helped to answer any issues, concerns or questions. Should you have any further queries in relation to this request, please do not hesitate to contact the FOI Team and quote the above reference number on any related correspondence.

Re-use of information

The information provided is Trust copyright. You may re-use this Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children NHS Foundation Trust copyright

information in accordance with the Open Government Licence:
<http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/version/2/>
(Please note that re-use of personal data is not allowed under this license.)

For information which is not Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children NHS Foundation Trust copyright, e.g. external websites, please contact the named party directly.

Yours sincerely

Freedom of Information team

Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children NHS Foundation Trust
Email: foiteam@gosh.nhs.uk

[Enclosed – Your rights – see next page]

Your Rights

If you are not dissatisfied with the response you have received to your request for information, please contact the FOI team and quote your reference number on all correspondence relating to your request.

You can also write to the Head of Quality & Safety at the following address:

Quality & Safety team
Great Ormond Street Hospital
LONDON
WC1N 3JH

If you are still not satisfied with your response, you also have the right to appeal to the Information Commissioner.

You can contact the Information Commissioner's Office at the following address:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF